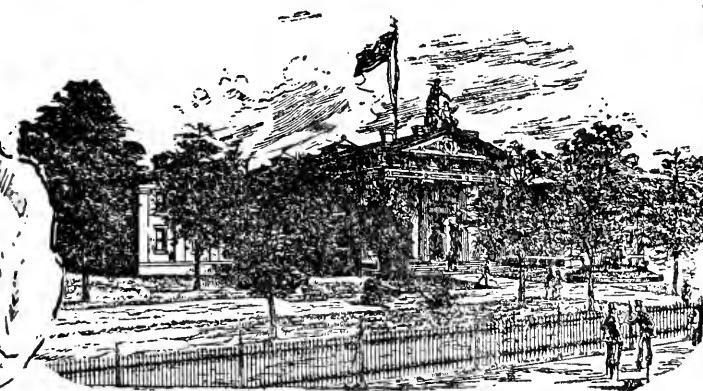


# Historical Arkansas



Old State House

Compliments of the  
Memorial Chapter  
W. D. C.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

F410  
26.84



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## To the Visiting Ladies of the Convention:

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"A welcome from hearts ever loyal and true—  
A welcome, most hearty, we offer to you.  
With hand unto hand, O friends, gathered here,  
Let us honor the Cause that our memories hold dear."



O YOU, OUR GUESTS, who love and cherish the Old South, we give of our hearts' best gifts.

Just open the pages of this little book and con the lives of our Poet, Statesmen, Soldier, Hero and Editor. The story of their lives will imbue you with Faith, Hope and Courage. Then let us more faithfully take for our motto, "Lest we forget."





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ALBERT PIKE

## Albert Pike



Born in Boston, Massachusetts, December 29, 1809; was educated at Harvard, and later for a time engaged in teaching. In 1831 he accompanied an expedition to Santa Fe, afterwards exploring the head-waters of the Red and Brazos rivers. In December, 1832, he again engaged in teaching near Van Buren, Arkansas, but after a short time he removed to Little Rock, in this State, and became the editor of a newspaper called the "Arkansas Advocate." In the meantime he entered upon the study of law, and was duly admitted to the bar in 1836. Soon afterwards he took an active part in the compilation of a code of statute law ostensibly prepared by a commission of which he was a very efficient secretary, which, with but few changes, still remains in force in Arkansas. He first became widely known by various poems published in Blackwood's Magazine, of Edinburg, Scotland.

When the Mexican war broke out Pike joined the volunteer army, and, in command of a squadron, fought at Buena Vista, and later received the surrender of Matamoros in 1847. He married in 1834, to Miss Mary Ann Hamilton, of Arkansas Post, whom he survived for some years.

During the Civil War Pike was made Indian Commissioner of the Confederate government, afterwards Brigadier General.

After the war he practiced law first in Little Rock, then in Memphis, Tennessee, and later in Washington, D. C. In 1867-1868 he also edited the Memphis Appeal. During all these years Pike devoted all the time that he could spare from his regular pursuits to literary work. He published a volume of "Prose Sketches and Poems" in 1834, which has since passed through several editions, one of them being recent. He also published thirty volumes of Masonic works. He died in Washington, D. C., April 2, 1891. He was an omniverous reader, and his linguistic attainments were of a high order. A very handsome life-sized monument has since been erected to his memory in one of the public squares of the National Capital.

It may be added that Pike had a very successful career at the bar, and early in life acquired a national reputation as an able and profound jurist. A man of great and multifarious learning and of remarkable social charm, he was attended through life by "troops of friends." Few men of his time and country were more widely known.

He built the beautiful old colonial residence in Little Rock, now owned and occupied by the children of the late Col. John G. Fletcher.



ALBERT PIKE HOME



AUGUSTUS HILL GARLAND

## Augustus Hill Garland



Was born near Covington, Tennessee, June 11, 1832. His father, who was a planter, removed with his family to Hempstead County, Arkansas, in the following year. On growing up to boyhood the son was educated at St. Joseph's College at Bardstown, Kentucky, after which he studied law and was admitted to the bar at Washington, Arkansas. Entering on the practice of his profession he soon afterwards married Miss Sanders, the lovely and accomplished daughter of a highly respected and esteemed resident of that town. Mr. Garland soon rose to distinction at the bar, and in 1850, desiring a larger field of activity, he removed to Little Rock, where he continued the practice in a law firm composed of Ebenezer Cummins, a distinguished member of the Little Rock bar, and himself.

Up to 1861 Mr. Garland showed no predilection for political life; but when a State convention was called in that year to consider the very disturbed condition of the country then existing he was elected as a delegate to that body from Pulaski County on a platform opposed to secession. The convention at first voted to sustain the union of States, and then adjourned to a distant day. During the exciting days that followed so great a change of public sentiment ensued that an ordinance of secession for which Mr. Garland and all the other union men in the convention with a single exception, voted, was adopted.

When the Confederate government was in process of formation, Mr. Garland was elected a member of the lower house of the Confederate Congress. He was later elected to a seat in the Confederate Senate, a position that he continued to hold until the surrender at Appomattox; after which he resumed the practice of the law at Little Rock.

When the State was in the throes of revolt against the carpet-bag government in 1874, Mr. Garland was elected Governor of Arkansas; a position that he held for the full term of two years. He was elected to the United States Senate in 1877, and on the accession of Mr. Cleveland to the Presidency he was appointed Attorney General of the United States, a place that he occupied until the close of Mr. Cleveland's first term of office, at which time he resumed the practice of his profession in Washington, D. C., without relinquishing his domicile in Arkansas. He died in Washington, June 26, 1899.

Mr. Garland was recognized throughout the Union as a profound jurist and an able statesman. He was highly esteemed and beloved for his personal virtues and for his genial social qualities. In his honor a county in Arkansas has been named after him, and a monument has been erected to his memory in Mt. Holly Cemetery, Little Rock, by his grateful countrymen.

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ASHLEY HOME

## Chester Ashley

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Was born at Amherst, Massachusetts, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 1791. When he was three years old his parents moved to the town of Hudson, in the State of New York. Growing up, he was educated at Williams College, Massachusetts, where he graduated in 1813. Later he studied law in the famous law school at Litchfield, Connecticut, established and presided over by Judge Reeve. Having taken his degree in the law school, Ashley removed to Edwardsville, Illinois, in 1818. At the end of two years he removed to St. Louis, then a mere village. When the Territory of Arkansas was formed and organized he resolved to cast his fortunes with that infant community, still in its swaddling clothes; and with that view he settled at what is now known as Little Rock. Although there was no town there at that time, and only two houses but lately improvised in the woods, and built of unhewn logs, he saw with prophetic eye that from its picturesque position and its many other advantages it must be selected as the capital of the Territory and of the future State of Arkansas. It was on this faith that he and others entered portions of the land on which the city now stands. At that time the capital of the Territory was at the Post of Arkansas, a small village on the Arkansas River fifty or sixty miles below Pine Bluff, and which had been originally settled by the French before the cession of Louisiana to the United States. The capital

was changed to Little Rock by an act of the Territorial Legislature in 1821.

On the 24th day of July, of that year Ashley married Miss Mary W. W. Eliot of St. Genevieve, Missouri, who, after many years of happy married life, survived him until May, 1865. It was in November, 1821, that the town of Little Rock was laid off and received the name which it still bears. It is needless to say that Ashley was one of its founders, and one of the most active and intelligent promoters of its welfare as long as he lived. Engaged in the practice of law, he soon rose to the highest rank at the bar, and acquired a national reputation as a lawyer and a jurist. In 1844 he was elected to the United States Senate. On his entry into that distinguished body a compliment was paid him that no one else has ever received since the foundation of the Federal government. In view of his personal merits and his universally recognized abilities, he was at once made chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, the most important committee within its control. Both before and since that time that appointment has been exclusively reserved for senators who have had the experience of at least one senatorial term.

On the expiration of Mr. Ashley's term, he was re-elected to the Senate, and was continued in his place as chairman of the Judiciary Committee; thus justifying and approving his first and exceptional selection for that high and responsible position.

While actively engaged in his duties in the Senate chamber in April, 1848, Mr. Ashley became suddenly and painfully ill, and was removed at once to his rooms, where it was discovered that he was suffering from a dangerous fever, of which he died on the 29th day of that month. Congress at once adjourned. His funeral was attended by the President, Judges of the Supreme

Court, principal officers of State, and a large concourse of citizens, when his body with appropriate ceremonies was laid to rest in the Congressional Cemetery. It was afterwards removed, and now reposes in Mt. Holly Cemetery, in the city of Little Rock.

The loss sustained by the death of Mr. Ashley was deeply felt by the people of the State and by the country at large. In commemoration of his life and public services one of the counties of our State and two of the prominent streets of Little Rock have received his name as a perpetual and honorable memento of his life and public services.



PATRICK RONAYNE CLEBURNE

## Patrick Ronayne Cleburne



Was born in the County of Cork, Ireland, March 17, 1823.

While a student at Trinity College, Dublin, he ran away and joined the British army, in which he remained for three years. Coming to America, he settled at Helena, Arkansas, where he studied law, was admitted to the bar, and practiced successfully until the breaking out of the Civil War, when he joined the Confederate army as a private. He almost immediately distinguished himself for military qualities of a very high order, and was rapidly promoted. He commanded a brigade at Shiloh, and was wounded at Perryville. In December, 1862, he was commissioned as major-general. He fought in many of the fierce battles of the war, and greatly distinguished himself at Murfreesborough, Chickamauga, Ringgold Gap and Missionary Ridge, for which services he received the thanks of the Confederate Congress.

Utterly fearless in danger, he was killed at the battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864. He was never married.

General Cleburne was a man of singular elevation of character, and was greatly cherished and admired both in civil and military life. Warmhearted, unselfish and chivalrous, in all his words and acts he was governed by a conscientious sense of duty. The bravest of men, he was also the tenderest, the most self-respecting, and the most considerate of the rights and feelings of others. Cleburne County in this State was named in his honor.



DAVID O. DODD

## **David D. Dodd**



Who knew what passed in those long years,  
In Arkansas?

Who cared to mark the falling tears  
Of Arkansas?

We know of many hero graves,  
Where not one wreath of laurel waves,  
And not one stone a hearing craves,  
In Arkansas.

Thermopylae is far away  
From Arkansas,  
And knew of heroes 'ere the day  
Of Arkansas.  
Leonidas did hold the pass  
Till men fell thick as summer grass;  
And one did read that in his class,  
In Arkansas.

Rome is held full many a sea  
From Arkansas,  
But we read the story of the Three  
In Arkansas.  
And one did read it every day,  
And heard, above his comrades' play,  
Strange voices call him far away  
From Arkansas.

And when close by his college door,  
In Arkansas,  
He stood, a mighty crowd before,  
In Arkansas.  
He knew his lessons all were done,  
Yet was beneath that Southern sun  
A lesson taught to many a one,  
In Arkansas.

He did not urge his youth's fair claim,  
On Arkansas.

Nor still a single comrade's name,  
Oh, Arkansas!

He would not take a length of days,  
That led through such dishonored ways,  
Better a grave than blighted bays,  
Oh, Arkansas!

He looked beyond his foemen's ire,  
To Arkansas;

He saw his comrades' camping fire,  
In Arkansas.

He marked each form, unfettered, strong;  
He heard them singing loud and long,  
And halfway joined into that song,  
Of Arkansas.

He saw his sisters' eyes grow dim,  
In Arkansas,

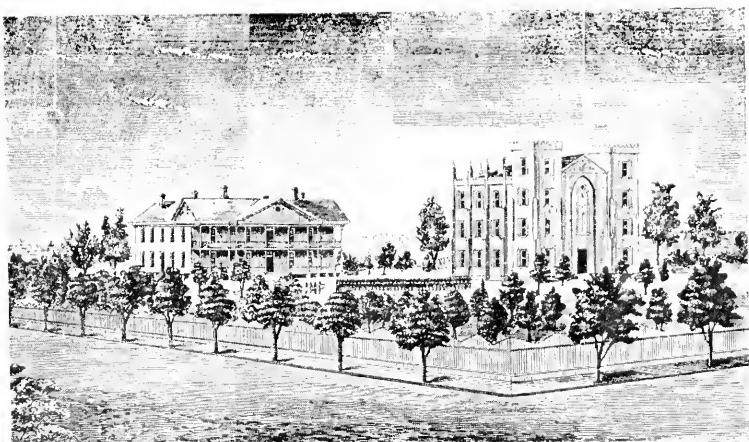
With watching long and late for him,  
In Arkansas.

He saw his mother at the door,  
Look, knitting, to the river shore—  
He would not see them any more,  
In Arkansas.

## Arkansas' Boy Hero

David O. Dodd was arrested by a Federal scouting party, December 26, 1864, as he was leaving Little Rock, and, on being searched, a plan of the fortifications of Little Rock and the number and position of the troops in and around the city was found upon his person. On the 30th day of December, he was tried before a military court and condemned as a spy and sentenced to be hung. He betrayed no fear when his sentence was read to him and, though offered his life and liberty if he would tell who gave him his information, he steadily refused, saying he preferred death to dishonor. He wrote a tender letter of farewell to his parents and sisters who were refugeeing in Texas in which he told them he was not afraid to die and while regretting he could see them

no more in this life expressed his firm faith in a meeting hereafter in the better land. After he was upon the scaffold Gen. Steele, the Federal General in command offered him his life and transportation beyond the Federal lines if he would tell who gave him his information but he calmly replied "General, I prefer death to dishonor, and I gladly give my life for my country." He was hung at 3 p. m., January 8, 1864, in front of St. John's College where he had gone to school. During the terrible four years of the Civil War no braver soul was yielded up than that of David O. Dodd, the 17-year-old boy of Saline County, Arkansas.



SAINT JOHNS COLLEGE

## St. Johns College



St. Johns College was established at Little Rock by the Masonic Fraternity of Arkansas. Beginning in 1850 a movement initiated by Judge Elbert H. English was set on foot in Masonic circles to found a college for the education of the sons of Masons as well as to afford general education. At that time there were no colleges in Arkansas, and but very few schools. St. Johns College therefore was one of the pioneer institutions of the State. The building was opened as a military college in 1859, with an able faculty of teachers from Virginia—graduates of the Virginia colleges. They were Col. John Baker Thompson, of Staunton, president; Major W. J. Bronaugh, of Richmond, and Major John B. Lewis, from Lexington. The college opened with about 60 cadets and had two prosperous sessions until, at the outbreak of the Civil War the institution was closed, and the professors and the cadets capable of bearing arms, enlisted in the Confederate army. The building was made use of as a hospital by the Confederates, and after the occupation of Little Rock by the Federal forces was likewise used by them until the close of the war.

It was reopened as a college in 1868, under Col. Luke E. Barber; afterwards conducted by Col. O. C. Gray, Major R. H. Parham and others, until 1882, when the institution was closed as a college and the buildings and grounds were afterwards sold by the trustees, and with the proceeds the Masonic Temple, at Main and Fifth streets, was erected.

The college in its career had among its pupils many men who are now prominent and leading men in Arkansas. In the latter years of its existence it was maintained as a co-educational institution.

The college buildings were destroyed by fire and since that time the grounds have been built over by handsome residences.



WOODRUFF HOME

## William E. Woodruff



Was born near Bellport, Long Island, in the State of New York, December 24, 1795. His early education was limited; and in early youth he was apprenticed to a printer in Brooklyn, and so became proficient in the business which he afterwards followed through the greater part of his life. In 1817 he set out to seek his fortunes in the far West. Buying a canoe he and a companion floated and paddled down the Ohio river to Louisville, Kentucky, from whence he wandered extensively through that State and Tennessee on foot, and with the aid of canoes and boats of various kinds, in search of some spot where a printing office and a newspaper, though of no great pretensions, might supply a long felt want.

Finally Mr. Woodruff made up his mind to settle at the Arkansas Post. The act of Congress creating the Territory of Arkansas, passed July 4, 1819, declared that that place should be "its seat of government until otherwise provided." It was nearly inaccessible. There was a mere bridle path running from Montgomery's Point, at the mouth of White River, a prospective city that has long since been dismantled, abandoned and practically forgotten; also a series of connecting roads and bridle paths extending from St. Louis by way of "the Post" to Monroe, Louisiana—then called "Monroe Court House"—along which the mail was carried on horseback every four weeks. This was the

only post route in the territory. As there were few or no bridges, mails were frequently interrupted; and promise of a mail at these distant intervals often proved an empty delusion.

With a view to future activities Mr. Woodruff bought at Franklin, Tennessee, a small printing press and some type. Needless to say that the press was a hand-press, since no other kind of press was known or even dreamed of at that day: precisely the same kind of press that Franklin had been using in Philadelphia some years earlier, and of which he said that doubtless in that machine the art of printing had reached its highest possible stage of perfection.

Mr. Woodruff caused his press and type to be transported on a wagon to the Cumberland River, and there, lashing two canoes together, and building on them a platform on which he placed these promoters of a higher civilization, he launched his adventurous craft, manned by himself and an assistant, on the waters; and after a long and weary voyage of three months on the Cumberland, Mississippi and Arkansas rivers, these intrepid voyagers landed triumphantly at the Arkansas Post on the 30th of October, 1819. Could he have had a premonitory post-card, giving a representation of the physical appearance of the home that he had chosen, never, in all human probability, would he have been seen walking the streets of the Arkansas Post; but the art and mystery of photography had not been discovered in those days, and men and women took most things on trust in a manner that would now be considered extremely reckless. A glance at the new capital would have struck terror to most souls. It was at best a very small hamlet of a few hundred French and Indians for inhabitants, with a mere sprinkling of Americans, new arrivals and lovers of adventure. As young Woodruff spoke neither the French nor the Indian languages, his social opportunities were

necessarily circumscribed. The houses of the new capital had been hastily constructed, consisting mostly of shanties and log cabins; the country around for many miles was as flat as a threshing floor, covered with a vast and almost unbroken forest and luxuriant vegetation that reminded one of tropical lands; it was subject, too, to annual and semi-annual inundations that converted the village and the whole surrounding country into an inland sea, and which, subsiding, left a yellow deposit of mud not only on the wide expanse of uninhabited territory, but also on the floors of such habitations as had not been erected with wise forethought on piles of considerable elevation above the surface of the never too solid earth. Needless to say that for white men malarious diseases prevailed to an alarming extent; the inhabitants being, of course, wholly ignorant of the connection subsisting between these maladies and the swarms of mosquitos that found here an earthly paradise blessed from time to time by an increase of food products in the shape of human victims. On the whole hardly any place could be found better suited for the purpose of curbing exuberant spirits, and the cultivation of serious thoughts.

To most persons the fact that Mr. Woodruff willingly encountered such discomfort and difficulties under such unpromising conditions would be enough to stamp him as an unpractical adventurer, with not a single chance of success in sight, or within speaking distance. Yet his judgment was sane and sound; and he possessed the fortitude and the abiding good sense of the true pioneer that brings forth great results out of scanty and unpromising materials. He knew that everything was there in the formative shape, and he trusted that American genius and enterprise would soon bring about new and happier conditions.

The difficulties in the way of starting a newspaper amid such surroundings were enough to appall the stoutest heart. No house

could be found as a shelter and home for such an enterprise; and so logs had to be cut and drawn from the contiguous forest; other materials necessary for the construction of a rude cabin had to be procured, and carpenters and other workmen were scarce. And yet, owing to the energy and activity of this young man, who not having been reared in the lap of luxury, was prepared to encounter privations and difficulties of all kinds, an unpretending building, in which ornamentation was severely excluded, made its appearance; type cases were set up, a pine table and a split-bottomed wooden chair did duty as an editorial sanctum, and the printing press, that marvel of human ingenuity, the admiration of all beholders, was duly enthroned. Small fear of strikes had young Woodruff, since he was the sole typesetter, the sole proof-reader and compositor, the sole editor, reporter, foreign correspondent, errand boy, cashier, bookkeeper, correspondent and printer's devil. Never was there such a complete concentration of resources. The newspaper had to start, and then to come out once a week in order to meet the demands of a critical and expectant public, and come out it did accordingly; the precocious child of much tribulation, and of seemingly extravagant hopes. The first number of the Arkansas Gazette made its appearance on Saturday, November 20, 1819. It had not a single subscriber, and the chance of selling more than half a dozen copies must have been extremely small. The sheet was about eighteen inches square; but the paper was good, the impression clear and distinct, the whole execution extremely creditable. As a candidate for long life its prospects were far from bright; and yet that frail infant has survived the wreck of years in which many thousands of its fellows, many of them projected under the happiest auspices, have gone down in gloom and disappointment.

When the Legislature came to elect a printer for the Territory in 1820, there was but small room for choice—Mr. Woodruff—Billy Woodruff as he was familiarly known in those days—was triumphantly elected. His official duties being neither numerous nor absorbing did not interfere with the career of the Arkansas Gazette, which came out every Saturday morning with unfailing regularity until the last issue at "The Post" of November 24, 1821, appeared, designated as Volume III, No. 2. The rare files of these old newspapers are not void of interest. They show conclusively that Mr. Woodruff was perfect master of the art of printing as understood in that day. The typesetting, punctuation, proofreading, spacing, arrangement and press work, everything relating to mechanical execution, exhibited the greatest care and the highest skill. Strange to say, as a literary journal the Arkansas Gazette of that date was greatly superior to any present periodical publication anywhere in the wide world. Mr. Woodruff did not disclaim the muse then assiduously cultivated, and in those days apparently at the last gasp. Every number of the paper contained some brilliant gem, since become classic, fresh from the pen of Scott, Byron, Woodworth, Shelley, Moore or Campbell, that had been slowly wafted across a wide sea by varying winds, and thence across a wide continent by methods that to us us seem to be almost inconceivably slow. Indeed there were great men and inspired poets then. We boast of our progress in these days when the place thus occupied then is now usurped by stock reports and news of prize fights. Napoleon died while the Gazette was in course of publication at "The Post;" and it was not until he had been sleeping under the willow at St. Helena for six months that the news could be announced in the Gazette by the vigilant watchman in the tower. The clock of time was running very slowly then, and an announcement that

in less than a century news would be flashed from that island round the world in a few hours would have been received with derision and incredulity.

When the capital was removed to Little Rock Mr. Woodruff followed the course of empire, carrying his newspaper with him, without change of name; and in Little Rock it has been issued ever since, first as a weekly paper, and afterwards as a daily, except for a short interval during the Civil War; in all of which time it has maintained itself as one of the most influential newspapers in the State. At present it may be said to be established on a permanent basis. Mr. Woodruff sold the Gazette in 1838, to one Edward Cole; but probably for nonpayment of the purchase money it reverted to him in 1841, and he resumed his editorial functions; though not for long. In 1843, he sold again to Benjamin S. Borden. In 1846 he started a new paper in Little Rock called the "Arkansas Democrat." In 1850 he bought the Gazette, and the two papers were consolidated, and issued under the old name of the Arkansas Gazette; a name which it still bears. In March, Mr. Woodruff sold the paper to C. C. Danley, thus bringing his connection with the press to a close. He had long prior to that time established a successful real estate agency in Little Rock, a business, which, having greatly increased, had ended by occupying all his time.

Mr. Woodruff married Miss Jane Eliza Mills, of Louisville, Kentucky, on the 14th of November, 1827. He has many descendants now living. Though he was no office-seeker yet he was United States Pension Agent at Little Rock for many years, and was Treasurer of the State from October 1, 1830, until November 20, 1838. He died at Little Rock, June 19, 1885 in the 90th year of his age. His widow survived him, dying in March 1887, at the age of 77 years.

Mr. Woodruff and Chester Ashley from the time that they first met in 1821 until the death of the latter in 1848, while he was a member of the United States Senate, were bound together by the closest ties of a friendship that for devotion and fidelity might be fitly compared with any mentioned in ancient annals; a friendship that does honor to both these highly distinguished pioneers of our State.

Mr. Woodruff was a small man, possessed of a wonderful amount of energy, industry and fortitude. His speech and manner were of almost Quakerlike modesty and simplicity, respectful, quiet and unassuming, beneath which was a rich fund of good natured humor. Notwithstanding a life of immense labor and activity, mingled with not a little hardship, and an apparently frail constitution, he had almost continuous good health down to the close of his long life. In all his affairs he displayed an exactitude and precision of details that won for him the public confidence; and down to extreme old age he was familiarly known as "Honest Billy Woodruff." Whatever he did was performed with the most scrupulous care. Mr. Hempstead, in his valuable history of Arkansas, to which the writer is greatly indebted in the preparation of this brief sketch, says of him: "From his unswerving integrity and perfect uprightness of character he possessed the esteem and respect of every one." A better epitaph one could hardly wish. It naturally followed from what has been said that he impressed himself deeply on the development of the infant community in which his lot was cast. His judgment on public affairs was sure and sound, and by temperament he was conservative; so that many who otherwise might have been misled by temporary excitement habitually deferred to his opinions which had been deliberately formed, and which were expressed with a calmness and freedom from partizanship that bespoke the thoroughness of his convictions. His name is perpetuated in that of one of the counties of the State.



ARSENAL BUILDING

## The Arsenal Building

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The building shown in illustration is the tower building of the former United States Arsenal. It was put up by the government near the year 1840, when Little Rock was a far west frontier point. It was the scene of many stirring events during the progress of the Civil War. At the outbreak of that great conflict it was garrisoned by an artillery company under Captain James Totten, and was taken possession of by the State authorities in February, 1861, Captain Totten retiring with his men. It was made use of for Confederate troops until the occupancy of Little Rock by the United States troops in 1863, and was thereafter made use of by them. In 1863 the government abandoned it as a military post and the citizens of Little Rock traded 1,000 acres of land on Big Rock to the government for a post in exchange for the garrison grounds for a city park. In taking possession of it for that purpose all the officers' quarters, barracks and other buildings were removed, leaving the tower building alone standing for use as park keeper's lodge, club rooms, and public assemblies.



CONFEDERATE MONUMENT

## Confederate Monument



The Arkansas Confederate Monument which stands in the grounds of the new State Capitol, was unveiled on the 3d of June, 1905. It was made in Paris, France, at the cost of ten thousand dollars, and is the work of the famous sculptor, F. W. Ruchstuhl. Five thousand dollars was collected by the Veterans and Daughters, and five thousand was contributed by the State.

One inscription upon this monument "The Defense of the Flag" is as follows: "Arkansas appreciated the valor and patriotism of her sons and commends their example to future generations."

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LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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